

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the braking force is maintained if at least one of the following is satisfied: a drive unit is running; the vehicle is at a complete standstill; and a gear is engaged.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the braking force is reduced if at least one of the following is recognized: a driver acts to make a standing start; a neutral gear is engaged; and the road slope is no longer in a travel direction.

11. (Amended) A storage medium for storing at least one computer program, wherein the at least one stored computer program is operable for executing in a computing unit a method for controlling a wheel brake of a vehicle, the method comprising:

determining a road slope;

determining whether a brake pedal is depressed and whether a parking brake is engaged;

maintaining a braking force at a wheel independently of an extent of a brake pedal actuation, in at least one operating state with one of the brake pedal depressed and the parking brake engaged, if the road slope points in a direction of a future travel direction of the vehicle; and

reducing the braking force for at least one condition.

Please add the following new claims:

--14. (New) A method for controlling a wheel brake of a vehicle, the method comprising:

determining a road slope;

determining whether at least one of a brake pedal is depressed and a parking brake is engaged;

maintaining a braking force at a wheel independently of an extent of a brake pedal actuation, in at least one operating state with one of the brake pedal depressed and the parking brake engaged, if the road slope points in a direction of a future travel direction of the vehicle; and

reducing the braking force for at least one condition.

15. (New) A method for controlling a wheel brake of a vehicle, the method comprising:

determining a road slope;

determining whether a brake pedal is depressed;

determining whether a parking brake is engaged if it is determined that the brake pedal is not depressed;

maintaining a braking force at a wheel independently of an extent of a brake pedal actuation, in at least one operating state with one of the brake pedal depressed and the parking brake engaged, if the road slope points in a direction of a future travel direction of the vehicle; and

reducing the braking force for at least one condition.

16. (New) A storage medium for storing at least one computer program, wherein the at least one stored computer program is operable for executing in a computing unit a method for controlling a wheel brake of a vehicle, the method comprising:

determining a road slope;

determining whether at least one of a brake pedal is depressed and a parking brake is engaged;

maintaining a braking force at a wheel independently of an extent of a brake pedal actuation, in at least one operating state with one of the brake pedal depressed and the parking brake engaged, if the road slope points in a direction of a future travel direction of the vehicle; and

reducing the braking force for at least one condition.

17. (New) A storage medium for storing at least one computer program, wherein the at least one stored computer program is operable for executing in a computing unit a method for controlling a wheel brake of a vehicle, the method comprising:

determining a road slope;

determining whether a brake pedal is depressed;

determining whether a parking brake is engaged if it is determined that the brake pedal is not depressed;